NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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AGRICULTURE.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SILK.

[The following article on a subject of great and increasing interest in the United States, from the pen of an able and patriotic correspondent, composes a part of the contents of a volume now in press, (in Boston) entitled the "NEW AMERICAN GARDENER;" which will compose, not only directions for the culture of all the vegetables usually raised in gardens, but remarks on Fruit Trees, Flowers, Ornamental Gardening, and some of the most prominent productions of Field Husbandry. It is principally compiled by the Editor of the New England Farmer. Some parts of the work, however, are from the pens of some of the most experienced and scientific horticulturists in Boston and its vicinity. It will be published by John B. Russell, (proprietor of the New England Farmer) and be ready for delivery in the course of six weeks.]

The cultivation of the soil is a duty which was imposed on man, almost coeval with the creation. It bears with it the sanctity of a primeval ordinance, and is irresistibly endearing, in as much as it admirably suits our nature, so as to promote in a singular degree, health and comfort, vigor and clearness of mind; the blessing on a ready compliance, with this divine law, is evident, from the happiness which flows therefrom, and which would make of the cultivators of the land, under some better advantages of education the greatly favored order of society. It is at the table of their own providing, that the nation is entertained—it is to the vigor, and to the faithfulness of their arm, that it trusts for its security

All hail, Agriculture and its noble bands! On the fragrant earth their appointed labor is performed; their dome is the pure vault of heaven, and their employ is that, by Mercy assigned, for the renovation of our race. There, since the days of old, has been the firm foundation of national greatness and prosperity; and there it must remain until the end of time. It is to those purposes, that comprehensive and active minds would find delight in directing their powers, because of the vastness of the field to explore, and of the greatness of the results to be expected.

Much has been said of the roughness of the New England soil and climate, and much more than ever was true. Since the time of the pilgrims, however, what harshness there was has been softened, and the climate in our days, is hastening to take its rank among the most favored for temperature and healthfulness. When the eye roams among our hills and vales, where can we meet with a more delightful variety? or a choice of aspects, and situations, so valuable for agricultural purposes? Some of our land is hard to work, because it wants a more thorough cultivation; and some abounds with rocks, that we may find there the best materials for our dwellings. What is there wanting, then, to make of New England a vast garden? Nothing, but contented labor, and intelligence to direct it—and that we have. Let all awake then, and try to improve to the best advantage, the natural advantages of the country—and we shall find, that far from any cause of discouragement, we are greatly favored.

To the cultivation of grain and potatos, we have discovered (in late years) that the soil and climate are well adapted to the raising of wool, even of Merino; and in a wonderfully short time, all over the land, there are great sheep-folds. There are also manufactures that employ all that wool, and much more; and provide us with comfortable and handsome clothing.

There are other mines yet unexplored. To the industrious and active, the prize must belong; and to them, we wish to point out the article of SILK, as one most deserving their attention. What is there, that the soil can yield, so rich as silk, that can be obtained with so easy a labor? Excepting the first raising and planting of the mulberry trees, all the work can be performed by women, children, and aged people. We are fully and sufficiently satisfied, that this noble article, may be made a staple of our country; and the advantages that would result from it, in a private and national point of view, are so important, that we cannot deny ourselves the satisfaction of devoting a few pages of this volume to that interesting subject—hoping that they may prove acceptable, and eventually, useful to many of our readers.

The raising of silk is not altogether novel in our land; many individuals in Massachusetts and Connecticut have attended to it for a number of years, with much advantage; and it is a fact fully established, that the soil and climate are congenial to the flourishing growth of the mulberry; and that the silk worms will thrive in New England, under proper management, as well as they do in most parts of Europe, where the raising of silk is the vital sinew of the community. Without any further remarks, we shall enter upon the subject, and set down, first, such practical information as relates to the raising of mulberry trees.

The mulberry and the silk-worm are natives of Asia. They were both unknown in Europe until the year 555—when the emperor Justinian sent two monks to Serinda, in India, from whence they brought to Constantinople, the seed of those precious insects, and the necessary information for their management. Thus they laid the foundation of those superb silk manufactures, which for near seven hundred years, flourished in Greece, at Athens, at Thebes, and Corinth. Before that time, the great of the earth, alone, could afford to clothe themselves with silk; the price of which was weight for weight in gold. About six hundred years after, the culture of silk was introduced from Greece, into Italy; and from thence into France, in the year 1494. Since those days, it has spread over all the southern and midland parts of Europe, and is now cultivated with success, as far north as Prussia, where the mulberry tree resists the most rigorous winters without injury.

There are two different species of mulberry, the *black*, which is cultivated for its excellent fruit, of a dark crimson color, almost black; and is a tree of slower growth than the white; the leaves are larger, of a darker green, thicker and stronger. The silk-worms will eat them for the want of better, but they do not thrive upon them, and the silk is coarse and inferior. The *white* mulberry tree bears a white, or light pink fruit; and its leaves are the most congenial food for these precious insects; is of a quicker growth, and does not come to so large a size as the black. The white mulberry is a very hardy tree, and bears our severest winters without any apparent injury; will last a great many years. If it be cut down close to the ground, will send up many suckers all around, and resist destruction for many years. There are many kinds of white mulberry, the leaves of which differ in point of merit as a food for the silk-worm. Some are of a small size, earlier, and more tender; and, on that account, are cultivated as the most proper for the worms when first born; the others are large, of a peculiar quality, which suits the taste of the worms, upon which they thrive best, and make the handsomest silk. In France and Italy, they universally graft the wild stocks, with those sorts which experience has taught them to be the most valuable.

At this early stage of the business with us, it would be difficult to attain at once, the nicety, which a long practice has introduced in the old countries. What we have to do for the present, is to sow mulberry seed, raise the young plants as in a nursery, reject those whereon thorns appear, as being the wildest, and bearing the smallest leaves; also those that have thick, coarse, hairy leaves. Save those that have the largest and handsomest smooth leaves; the worms eat them more readily, and experience has shewn that they thrive best upon them, make more silk, and of a better quality. The best plants for earliness and superiority of leaves, should be set out and noted; as they may hereafter furnish scions for grafting. Upon dry soil, the mulberry trees do not grow much taller than our largest peach trees; but they are stouter and thicker set. Their roots, which are of a remarkable bright color, (that of silk) extend to a considerable distance; and they ought not to be planted, on that account, nearer than thirty feet from tree to tree.

As the gathering of leaves, too soon, would injure their growth and constitution, we would recommend that no leaves should be gathered until after the fifth year. In the mean time plantations may be made for immediate use, by sowing the seed in drills, at a convenient distance; planting beans or potatos between, to keep the ground clear of weeds. The second year after sowing, these seedlings might be cut down with a sharp instrument, three or four inches from the ground, and would give a second crop the same season. In the silk countries, they raise seedlings in rows for the first feeding of worms. These young plants putting out their leaves earlier than the old trees, and being more tender, are better adapted for the worms in the first stage of their existence. They also plant the mulberry trees, and suffer them to grow according to unrestrained nature, branching out from the ground. This is for the convenience of gathering the leaves more easily, and making a food stronger than the seedling. They consider the leaves from trees regularly trained, with a single butt, and of several years' growth, to give the most substantial food; upon which the worms should be kept during the last period of their life, previous to their ascending, in order to obtain an abundant crop of silk of the best quality. At our first entering on this new, and profitable, business, we shall be under the necessity of trust-

ing wholly to our rows of seedlings, as the only food, we can offer to the worms. But when the trees planted out come to maturity, we shall adopt the more systematic way of feeding, which experience has pointed out as most favorable. Although with us, the despatch of cutting down the seedlings for food, instead of the slow process of gathering leaves, will always remain an object of serious consideration.

The white mulberry thrives in all soils and situations, and will grow very rank and full of leaves upon low moist ground; but the food it affords in such situations, is very inferior and apt to disorder the worms. A warm loam, even if gravelly, will give leaves of the best quality; and a sheltered, warm situation will produce leaves many days sooner than one which is exposed to cold, and is desirable on that account.

The mulberry tree may be raised from suckers, and sometimes slips stuck in a moist soil, will take root; if the low branches of a tree can be bent so as to be fastened, and covered in the ground they will take root. The trees may be planted near buildings, for shade, or in a yard; the fowls are very fond of the fruit when it falls. A variety of situations will increase the means of early and late feeding which is very desirable.

We shall conclude these remarks on the cultivation of the mulberry, by observing, that the most esteemed seed of that tree in Europe, is that raised in Piedmont. The seed from Spain is also excellent. But the best quality of seed is large, bright, and heavy; and when bruised it will appear oily, and when thrown on ignited coals it will crackle.

The next object to consider, is the *seed from which the worms are to be hatched;* and here it will be proper to observe, that one ounce of seed will produce about forty thousand worms, who will consume about one thousand lbs. weight of leaves, and produce from eighty to one hundred pounds of cocoons; and twelve pounds of cocoons will give about one pound of silk. It is important to procure the best seed, because that which is inferior, will produce sickly worms, who will be much more exposed to the various disorders to which these insects are subject; a greater proportion will die, and those which survive, will not make good cocoons. The best seed is of a dark grey color, almost as dark as slate, looks bright, and if thrown into wine will sink. Those which are light, of a white or yellow color, and look dull, are barren and good for nothing. The seed should be kept in a cool, dry situation, until the mulberry trees have their leaves opened; when the food is thus in readiness then is the time to get it hatched. In Italy and France, at that appointed time, the women put the seed in small bags of worsted stuff, and place them in their bosoms, during the day, and at night under their pillows, for about forty-eight hours; at the expiration of which, the seed is transferred into boxes, over which a paper cover is fastened with many small holes, through which the little worms will creep. Some mulberry leaves should be placed on the paper so that they may feed, which they will do, as soon as they come to life. These boxes are placed on feather beds with pillows around them, in order to keep a uniform heat whilst the worms are hatching. Those which come to life in the course of the same day, should be collected and kept together; they will shed their skins, and ascend to make their cocoons, at the same period. The hatching of each successive day should be kept separate; this order will render the management and care easier, and more profitable. When the hatching has been well conducted, the heat proper and regular, most of the worms will make their appearance on the third or fourth day; and such seed as has not come to life on the 5th or 6th day, is not worth preserving; for if it should hatch the worms will be weakly, and not likely to do well. If on the second day, the seed that has been set to hatch should change color, and appear red, it proves that the heat has been too great, and that the seed is spoiled.

In the middle provinces of France, where the climate is variable, and subject to sudden returns of cold, the cultivators are very cautious occasionally to exclude the outward air, by shutting the doors and windows, always, in the night and early part of the morning. Sudden cold, dampness, and especially, foggy weather, are sure to injure the worms by bringing disease upon them, which will often prove fatal, and always reduce the quantity and injure the quality of the silk. A uniform temperature, not too warm, is considered as very desirable for the success of the silk crop; and about seventy-three degrees of the thermometer of Fahrenheit is the most suitable.

The silk-worms shed the skin four times, which is for them a period of sickness; and, during which, they do not eat, but appear drowsy, and are more particularly affected by sudden changes of the weather to cold or dry. The first shedding takes place the 6th or 7th day after their birth; the head appears to increase in size. This time of trial, will last three or four days, if the weather is warm and genial; but if otherwise, much longer. As soon as the skin is cast off, they appear active again, eat with a good appetite, and will continue so, for six or eight days longer, when the second shedding comes on under the same circumstances, and is succeeded by a third and fourth shedding. The second shedding is the easiest for them, and fewer die under the operation than during the first, third, and fourth. Eight days after the worms have got through the fourth shedding; and at the end of about six weeks from the commencement of their existence, they have arrived nearly to maturity, and are going to make their cocoons and reward the care that has been taken of them. They want then to go up to spin their cocoons, but it is necessary not to encourage this natural disposition, until it is evident that they are fully ripe. If they go up too soon, their cocoons will be light and flimsy. The signs of their full maturity, are some change in their color, which until then is white; the head appears wilted, the tail larger, the green circles round the body become a bright gold color, and they keep moving about among the others, but without eating, and seem as if stretching their heads for the purpose of spinning. When the worms exhibit these indications, they should be separated from the rest, and put into a place where small dry branches of oak, hazel, white birch, or any other wood, have been prepared for them to ascend and spin their cocoons. When they have ascended, it will be some days before they begin to spin. The first day, they lay out threads for a foundation—the second, they form the shape of the cocoons—the third, the worm is entombed and out of sight; but continues to spin, (inside) until he has expended the whole of his stock of liquor, which in general, is the seventh or eighth day. The thread of a good cocoon is about nine hundred and fifty feet. *(Concluded next week.)*

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Mr. Fessenden,—Finding a leisure moment, this afternoon, I took up the yesterday's number of your truly useful paper. The first article which met my eye was one, "On the Effects of the Protecting System upon the Agricultural Interest," taken by you from the American Farmer. This article appears to have been written by "Samuel Wyllis Pomeroy," of "Brighton, near Boston."—Having read through what the writer has chosen to say of himself and his own affairs, with which I have nothing to do, I come to what was intended for the *substantial* part of the performance; viz. a statement of the history of the "Protecting system," and an argument, founded on that statement. It is here that I shall begin my observations on the treatise.

Mr. Pomeroy says the first impost on cheese, "of four cents a pound, was laid in September, 1790. Foreign cheese was considered a *luxury*, and was taxed as a fair object of revenue. The preamble to the act which contains this item recites "To make provision for the payment of the debts of the United States." "Revenue," he further observes, "was the only object—no one ever dreamed that it was for the *protection* of a particular class of citizens. The discovery that Congress possessed the power of imposing prohibitory tariffs was reserved for more evil times. This is an *excrescence* that has attached to the constitution since that period. Had it appeared then, every hand of those illustrious patriots who organized the government would have been put forth to pluck out the *constructive tumour* by the roots.—They would have pronounced, most emphatically, that 'the state legislatures were the only *legitimate* almoners of the *people's* money.'"

The shortest and most effectual mode of correcting the above mis-statement of the early history of the protective system in this country, is to quote, verbatim, the titles and declaratory parts of the first acts of Congress on that subject; which I shall here do, for the information of Mr. Pomeroy and your other readers.

The first act on the subject, and the first *business* law made by Congress under the present constitution, was "An Act for laying a duty on goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into the United States," which says, "Whereas it is necessary for the support of government, for the discharge of the debts of the United States, *and the encouragement and protection of manufactures*, that duties be laid on goods, wares and merchandizes imported." Approved by Washington, July 4, 1789. This act imposed a duty of four cents a pound on imported cheese.

The second act on this subject was that for "making further provision for the payment of the debts of the United States." Approved by Washington, August 10, 1790. This act recites, that, "Whereas by an act for laying a duty on goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into the United States, divers duties were laid on goods, wares and merchandises, so imported, for the discharge of the debts of the United States, *and the encouragement and protection of manufactures:* And whereas the support of government and the discharge of the said debts render it necessary to increase the said duties." By this act the duty of

four cents a pound, on cheese, imported, was continued.

Now, sir, let Mr. Pomeroy and your other readers, compare the laws, as they may be found in the statute book, with Mr. Pomeroy's statement. The mere inspection will be sufficient for my purpose; and comments would be superfluous!

On reading Mr. Pomeroy's communication to its conclusion, I find that there is nothing more in it, which requires animadversion. If he chooses to take the *anti*-tariff bill, now before Congress, as a specimen of what is wanted by the *true* friends of the "American System," and to deprecate the details of that bill, his supposition is erroneous, however well directed may be his objections.

Providence, April 12, 1828. W. E. R.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Mr. Fessenden,—I learn with regret that Major Jaques has lost the celebrated bull Cœlebs.—This I consider not only a heavy loss to the enterprising owner but a loss to the public, believing it will not be an easy matter readily to supply the place of that fine animal.

If sir, "he who contrives to make two spires of grass grow where but one grew before be entitled to rank with the benefactors of mankind;" it follows, that he who contrives to make one spear of grass produce as much beef or as much milk as two did before is entitled to the same distinction. I am not so visionary as to believe this advantage can ever be fully realised; much however, has been done, and much more may be done, tending to this result.

I am surprized at the apathy of our agricultural brethren on this subject, and the indifference so manifest in the community generally towards our agricultural societies. The advantages which have and must continue to accrue to the public from the operations of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, are incalculable. The public spirit of the founders and liberal supporters of this institution is in my opinion by no means duly appreciated; succeeding generations while reaping the fruits of their labors will bless their memories as public benefactors.

Among the objects of this Society improvement in the breed of stock I believe is, and I think deservedly so, one of the most prominent. In this pursuit the gentleman above mentioned appears engaged heart and soul, so far as his location and facilities admit, but these compared with his activity and perseverance are quite limited. It is much to be desired that his zeal should be exerted in a field commensurate with his abilities, and we have no fear that it would not be as beneficial to the public as satisfactory to himself.

A FRIEND TO IMPROVEMENT.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Mr. Fessenden,—Having seen pieces occasionally in your very useful "New England Farmer" on the subject of Peas, time of planting same, for preventing bugs, &c. I will mention a very simple plan I have for several years adopted, so many that I begin to think it originated with me—Immediately before planting I put the peas in a tub, and pour very hot water on them, keep stirring for one or two minutes, and have cold water at hand to pour on sufficient to cover them one or two inches, leaving it not more than blood warm, for one or two hours before planting, in which time they will swell considerably and come up much sooner; all the bugs will be destroyed and found floating on the top of the water. In fact I have very few, and verily believe, if the plan was universally adopted, we should not hear any more about buggy peas; but if here and there a slovenly neighbour should neglect this rule, the flying weavil would pass from his field, to his more careful neighbours as readily, as the miller from the neglected apple and wild cherry trees to the better attended ones of his neighbours, depositing the eggs of the caterpillar for the next year. P.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

TEAZELS.

Mr. Fessenden,—For the information of your Bristol correspondent, who inquires respecting teazels in your last paper, I send you the following, derived from persons who for a number of years have cultivated them on farms in my neighborhood: They thrive best in a deep loamy soil; the ground is made mellow by 2 or 3 ploughings and well harrowed. The latter part of April the seeds are sown in drills, twenty inches apart; and thinned in the drills to 1 foot distant; must be kept free from weeds until autumn, when the plants are slightly protected during the winter by some coarse litter. In the following spring they are to be uncovered and the weeds kept down until the latter part of the summer, when the head will be ripened and must be picked as they turn brown and thoroughly dried.

It sometimes happens, that a part of the plants do not produce heads the second year. Such plants they remove into a bed by themselves, and they produce a crop the third year.

The following is extracted from M'Mahon and agrees in substance with the foregoing:

Dipsacus fullonum, or Fuller's teazels. This plant is propagated by sowing this seed in March or April, upon a soil that has been well ploughed. It is observed that good wheat land is well adapted for the production of teazels. From 1 to 2 pecks of seed is sown upon an acre, and harrowed in with a light harrow. When the plants are up, hoe them in the same manner as practised for turnips, cutting down the weeds and singling out the plants to six or eight inches. Hoe them a second time, cutting out the plants to about one foot asunder, and keep them free from weeds.—The second year the plants will shoot up stalks with heads which will be fit for collecting in August, observing that they are to be collected as they turn brown and ripen.

A RHODEISLANDER.

North Providence, April 14, 1828.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

MANAGEMENT OF DAIRIES IN DEVONSHIRE, ENGLAND.

"The milk is put into tin or earthen pans, holding about ten or twelve quarts each. The evening's meal is placed, in the following morning, and the morning's milk is placed in the afternoon, upon broad iron plates, heated by a small furnace, or otherwise over stoves, where, exposed to a gentle fire, they remain until after the whole body of cream is supposed to have formed upon the surface, which being gently removed by the edge of a spoon or ladle, small air bubbles will begin to rise, that denote the approach of a boiling heat, when the pans must be removed off the heated plate or stoves. The cream remains upon the milk in this state, until quite cold, when it may be removed into a churn, or, as is more frequently the case, into an open vessel, and there moved by a stick about a foot long, at the end of which is fixed a sort of peal, from four to six inches in diameter, and with which about 12 lbs. of butter may be separated from the butter-milk at a time.

"The butter in both cases, being found to separate much more freely, and sooner to coagulate into a mass, than in the ordinary way, when churned from raw cream that may have been several days in gathering; and at the same time will answer a more valuable purpose for preserving, which should be first salted in the usual way: then placed in convenient sized egg-shaped earthen crocks, and always kept covered with a pickle made strong enough to float and buoy up about half out of the brine, a new laid egg. This cream, before churning is the clouted cream so much celebrated in Devonshire. Although it would be reasonable to suppose, that the scalding of the milk must have occasioned the whole of the oily or unctuous matter to form upon the surface, still experience shews that is not the case, and that the scalded skimmed milk is much richer and better for the purposes of suckling, and makes far better cheese than the raw skimmed milk does.

"The ordinary produce of milk per day, for the first twenty weeks after calving is three gallons, and is equal to the producing of a pound and a quarter of butter daily, by the scalding process. The scalded skimmed milk is valued at 1½d. per quart, either for cheese making or feeding hogs. The sum of the trials, procured to be made on the milk in several parts of this district, gives an average of twelve pints of milk to ten ounces of butter. When cheese is to be made (but in which manufacture there does not appear to be any superior excellence in Devonshire,) great care is taken that the milk is not heated so far as to produce bubbles under the cream.

"Although these statements will be found considerably short of the average produce from cows of a larger size, and probably much better adapted for the pail, still there are not wanting instances of what must be regarded as extraordinary produce among the North Devon cows.

"In the neighbourhood of Molland Bouceaux, a single cow, judged to be rather less than eight score per quarter, within three weeks from the time of calving, yielded, in seven successive days, seventeen pounds and a half of butter; several of the meals of milk were measured during this time, which gave an average of fourteen pints per meal: instances also occurred in other parts of the district of two pounds of butter per day being obtained from cows within a short time after calving; and it is particularly clear in the recollection of a gentleman in the neighbourhood of Bishop's Tawton, that some years since a cow of the common red breed, after her second or third calf, which she had between Michaelmas [27th Sept.] and Christmas yielded, without any particular attention being paid to food or treatment, during a considerable time of the ensuing winter, two pounds and a half of butter per day; this cow living at the time in common with the other dairy cows, which were permitted in the day time to range over all the old pasture grounds, and regularly foddered morning and evening with hay in the same field."—*Vancouver's Survey of Devonshire.*

(From the New York Farmer.)

ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF PASTURES.

By J. Buel, Esq. of Albany.

I shall consider them under the two following heads:

1 Those in which the plough is altogether excluded, which may be called *permanent pastures*—and,

2. Those which intervene in alternate husbandry, and which may be denominated *temporary.*

The first comprises lands which are too stony, too wet, or too hilly, for tillage, and sometimes river alluvians. The latter are less frequently depastured here than in Great Britain. *There* they are considered necessary to *fatten*, while the hilly uplands are appropriated to *rear* and to *feed* neat cattle. Their superior value with us, for hay, in situations accessible to large towns, has generally confined pastur ge upon them to the aftermath.

1 The advantages of old pasture grounds are very highly valued in Great Britain. They contain a greater variety of grasses, and yield a much greater quantity of food, than those which have been recently laid down. The feed is believed to be also more nutritious, as the sod is found to abound in the finer native grasses, which, on account of the little product they yield in hay, are not so commonly sown as those which afford bulkier products Grasses do not all grow alike; some start early and afford a good bite in spring; some are more luxuriant at midsummer; and others again afford nutritious herbage in autumn and winter. Old pastures contain more or less of each, and consequently give a succession of fresh feed They are truly perennial. Their value, other circumstances being similar, is in proportion to their fertility; for vegetables, like animals, require food for their developement and perfection, and thrive in proportion as this is abundant and nutritious.

When pasture grounds are wet, the first object should be to drain them thoroughly. *Wet* grounds produce coarse grasses, which smother the finer kinds, and become poached by the feet of cattle, till the sod is partially or wholly destroyed. *Moist* grounds, on the contrary, produce the greatest variety and most nutritious quality of grasses.

The extirpation of bushes, thistles, dock, and other useless plants, although but seldom or partially attended to, will well repay the labour in the increased quantity of feed, to say nothing of the appearance of neatness which it gives to grounds. By this, I do not mean to exclude trees, either single, in clumps, or in belts upon the borders. These afford shade, shelter, and fuel, without materially injuring the pasture. Where the common locust is exempt from the depredations of the worm, it may be raised in this way with great profit. I have been much pleased with the attention which has been paid to this subject in Pennsylvania, and in the southern parts of this state. Belts of forest trees are peculiarly serviceable in protecting winter crops from the severity of cold.

Manuring pasture grounds, otherwise than by the droppings of cattle that are fed upon them, is a practice that has few or no followers among us; and yet it might be done with as much advantage here as in other countries. But for this purpose, I would not recommend cattle dung, but road alluvian, swamp earth, and composts. The best and cheapest top-dressing for pastures as well as meadows that I am acquainted with, with the exception of plaster of Paris, is what the Scotch call middens, or Lord Meadowbank's compost middens. It is composed of about three parts swamp earth, and one part fresh stable dung, placed in compact alternate layers, to the height of four or five feet, and suffered to remain until incipient fermentation pervades the mass. The swamp earth I speak of, is the black vegetable matter, which has accumulated in bogs and wet grounds, and which is often insoluble, and unfit for the food of plants, until decomposition has been begun by the aid of hot dung, lime, or other extraneous agent. I have made this compost with success, and applied it with profit. It is a cheap method, when the materials are at hand, of trebling or quadrupling manure, for all the purposes of husbandry. It should be applied to grass grounds in autumn.

Scarifying or harrowing pastures in the spring, which are what is termed hide bound, is a good remedy for the evil, and serves to extirpate masses, which are the bane of the finer grasses. Seeds may be scattered previous to this operation with certain advantage. Heavy rollers are also used with benefits, as early as the sole of the grass is solid enough to sustain the weight of cattle. It reduces inequalities occasioned by frost, and presses the earth to the collar and roots of the plants.

2. In preparing new pastures, the rule should be, to endeavor as far as possible, to make them resemble old ones. And this is best effected by sowing seed of all the esteemed varieties found in old pastures. On this head our practice is very defective; two kinds being the greatest extent to which our experiments have been carried. I have read some interesting experiments made at Woburn by Sinclair, on this subject; but as the book is in the hands of a friend, I can only quote from recollection. This indefatigable experimenter counted the number of plants upon a given surface of rich old pasture, and upon a like surface of new pastures, sown with from two to ten or a dozen kinds of grass seeds. The old sod supported about 11,000 plants; on the new the number varied, I think, from about 700 to 75, and was found to be nearly in the ratio of the number of grass seeds sown. The weight of the produce cut at the proper season, corresponded somewhat with the number of plants. The deductions from these facts were, that by sowing a great number of kinds, and an abundance of seed, new pastures might in two years acquire nearly the value of old ones: for though a given space would grow but a certain number of *one* variety, yet that the same space would support more than double that number of *several* varieties: and that consequently *many* would afford much more forage than *one* or *two* varieties on the same surface.

These deductions correspond with the established maxims of natural philosophy. All plants take from the soil food which benefits all; yet every species requires for its developement and perfection, something peculiar which other species do not imbibe. And although the soil contains only enough of this peculiar nutriment to support a certain number of plants of one species, yet it may abound in the peculiar nutriment of others. But I need not resort to abstruse science to illustrate what is apparent to every intelligent farmer. Our system of rotation of crops is based upon this law of nature; and we see it confirmed in the alternations which are constantly going on in our fields and forests.

Our seed shops do not afford any great range in the selection of grass seeds. But we are better off than we have been; and if farmers consult their true interests, we shall soon find new varieties imported, and more care bestowed in collecting the seeds of valuable indigenous kinds. At present we can obtain seeds of the tall oat grass, *(Avena elatior,)* the orchard grass, *(Dactylis glomerata,)* timothy *(Phleum pratense,)* herd grass *(Agrostis stricta,)* and white and red clover, *(Trifolium pratense* and *T. repens.)* These are all suitable for pasture grasses. The Poa pratensis, P. trivialis, P. compressa, (rough and smooth stalked meadow and blue grasses,) the Agrostis alba, white top or foul meadow,) the Holcus lanatus, (meadow soft grass) some of the Festucas and several of the Agrostis families, are indigenous, and come in spontaneously, to soils adapted to their growth. The seeds of meadow foxtail, sweet scented vernal grass, and the fescue, may be obtained from Great Britain, and would be valuable accessions to our pasture grounds.

SWEET POTATOS.

Directions for the preservation of the SLIPS *of the Sweet Potatos, and for their cultivation.*

The *Slips* are nothing more than the *small* potatos or roots *last* thrown off by the plant. They are preferred to larger ones on the several grounds of economy, of food and and of room—of their being more easily preserved, and less likely to rot in the ground after they are planted. The writer of this, during fifteen years, never succeeded in getting more than one large sweet potato to vegetate or grow in the open ground. The ignorance of the mode of culture has probably been the cause of their not having been raised here.

The slips should be put up for preservation without *bruising* them (or as the directions from New Jersey expressed it, they should be handled as carefully as eggs) in a dry state, in *perfectly* dry sand or earth, and kept in a warm place as free as possible from moisture.

Those who wish to be perfectly assured of their success, will raise a small hot bed with, or without glass about the 10th of April, on the south side of a fence, wall or building. On this, they will lay the slips or roots so close as to touch each other, so that a bed of six feet square will be sufficient for a bushel of them. They should then be covered with about an inch of earth. If the cultivator has no hot bed frames, the bed at night may be covered with a mat or with straw.

In 10 or 14 days some of the shoots will appear above ground; when about one half or even a third so appear, they are all to be taken up to be planted. The lightest soils are best adapted to them. As their roots almost universally strike downwards, like those of the carrot, they are always placed on hills *raised* about nine inches, or about the height of a potato hill, after its *last faithful* hoeing. These hills should be four feet and a half apart in every direction. The slips, two in each hill, one foot apart, are then put in either with the fingers, or a stick, or any instrument capable of making a sufficient hole, and the crown or top should be within an inch or half inch of the surface. When thus started or sprouted, it will be easy to distinguish the end which sends out *roots*, from that which puts forth shoots for the open air. The slips should be put in perpendicularly or nearly so, the *root end* downwards. They would grow without this precaution, but would be delayed and injured in their growth. A little dung

dug, or hoed in will much aid their progress, unless the land be rich. They cannot bear moist, or any rich grounds, or places, where the water stands, after showers. Their vines grow too luxuriantly in such situations, and their roots are softer and more watery.

After they are planted they require the same treatment as the squash or pumpkin, that is simply weeding them. In the Jerseys, they raise the runners from the ground when they weed them—so as to prevent their taking root, which they do more readily than any plant, and which the Jersey farmers think injurious to the main roots. The subscriber permitted nature to take its course—but he should certainly make the trial another year of the New Jersey method.

The products for two successive years, have been at the rate of 220 bushels to the acre, with no greater care, nor indeed so much as that bestowed on common potatos. They were planted this year early in June, and were hilled on the 10th of Oct. which is at least forty-five days less growth, than they would have in common years, or if the seed had arrived earlier. They will begin to be palateable and fit for table about the 15th of Sept. or 1st of Oct.—as the season may have been hot or cold; but the general crop ought not to be dug till the vines are killed. They will endure six or seven frosts after the common potato stalks have been killed. So many persons have applied for slips, that it was the advice of some of them, that these hints should be published. It is not pretended that the culture is of any agricultural importance—it is merely an horticultural experiment, very pleasant to those who have a taste for such pursuits—and also gratifying to those who love the sweet potato. They certainly can be raised here of excellent quality, full as often as we can raise good grapes, peaches, or pears. They should not be gathered in by the hoe, or spade—they must be raised like the carrot, with the dung fork. J. LOWELL.

The following additional remarks are from the Massachusetts Agricultural Journal.

CAROLINA, OR SWEET POTATO.

This plant is not a potato, though there is a vulgar opinion, that the common potato transplanted to southern regions becomes sweet, and that the sweet potato on being carried to northern climate degenerates into the common potato. The common potato is what the botanists have named a solanum. It is not a running plant. Its native country is probably the high lands of South America—a cold region. It delights in cold seasons, and a moist soil, and it is a fact, that it is drier and more mealy, when raised in such soils, than in dry ones. The best potatos known are raised in wet, flat and almost overflown grounds of Lancashire in England: and in Ireland, so famous for its moisture and verdure, as to have received the appellation of the Emerald Isle. It flourishes admirably in the fogs of Nova Scotia and the lower parts of the State of Maine. The sweet potato has no title to be called the Carolina potato It is an exotic, or foreign plant with them. It is a native of tropical regions—has been gradually introduced northerly, like the Lima or Saba, commonly pronounced Civet bean. The sweet potato is not a solanum, but a convolvulus—has all the habits of the tribe of the convolvulus—it is a running or creeping plant. It never flowers in our country—is very hardy—capable of bearing more frost than the common potato, and in wet seasons it is watery and less sweet. It may prove my great zeal, and somewhat theoretical turn, to recommend the culture of this vegetable in Massachusetts, but four years' experience have given me some right to speak of it practically. I recommend its culture on the following grounds:—1st. It will grow and succeed here under ordinary culture. 2d It is very prolific, making as good returns as the common potato. 3d It is preferred by man, bearing usually a price three times as great with us as the common potato. 4th It is preferred by all animals of whatever description. Cows and pigs eat it greedily, and even dung-hill fowls will attack and consume it in a raw state. It will produce about 250 bushels to the acre. I have never failed to raise it with success. The only impediment to its culture is the difficulty of preserving the small tubers or roots; but as soon as it is known that there will be a demand for them, our market will be regularly supplied from New Jersey, where it has been long naturalized. It can be as easily raised as cabbages. This I undertake to affirm.

JOHN LOWELL.

Salmon Trout.—A fish of this species, weighing twenty-three pounds, was caught in Schoodic lake which empties into the Piscataqua, at Kilmarnoc, and sold in this town a few weeks since. Soon after, Messrs. Colby and Chick, made a tour to the lake and caught fifteen of the same species—the largest of which, weighed ten pounds. Last week Mr. Chick and others caught thirty; the largest weighing twelve pounds.—*Bangor Reg.*

The Legislature of New York, has before it a bill to grant a bounty on New-York salt sent down to Albany and the seaports.

Also a bill to encourage the growth and manufacture of hemp and flax—and a bill authorizing a loan of $1,000,000 for the Chenango Canal.

Potato Pudding.—One pound of butter, one do. of sugar, beat to a cream, two pounds of potatos boiled and pressed through the cullender, twelve eggs, one glass of brandy, one of wine, half a glass of rose water, one teaspoonful of spice.

Mohawk and Hudson Rail Road.—The Albany Advertiser says:—"We are happy to state the amendments to the bill to incorporate the Mohawk and Hudson Rail Road Company have at length passed into a law. It will be remembered that in 1826, General Van Rensselaer, Mr. Featherstonhaugh, and their friends, were incorporated with an exclusive privilege for fifty years, to occupy, by a rail road, the communication betwixt the Erie Canal near Schenectady and the city of Albany. This communication was deemed to promise such great results, that the legislature reserved to the state the right to purchase it of the company within five years of its completion. They also made the stockholders personally liable for the debts of the company.—The company upon mature consideration, refused to construct the road with these restrictions, and applied this session to be released from them. The law accordingly has been amended: the personal liability clause being repealed the company is to have exclusive possession of the profits of the road for the first ten years after its completion; and during the five years succeeding the ten, the state reserves to itself the right of purchasing the property of the corporation, upon payment of the original cost, repairs, expenses of every kind, fixtures and appurtenances, with 14 per cent per annum. This is the most valuable charter ever granted in this country. The immense increase of transportation, both of property and persons on this route, continually advancing in amount, baffles all calculation as to the future operations of this rail road.

Horse butcheries.—Near Paris are a number of horse butcheries, at two of which 14,775 worn out horses were slaughtered in one year. Every part of the animal is turned to some account. The mane and tail are sold to the upholsterers, the skin to the tanners, the meat to the owners of cats and dogs; the small intestines are manufactured into cords, the hoofs into combs, and the bones into knife handles, fans, &c. These establishments are infested with innumerable rats, which are caught and killed for their skins. More than 2,600 have been killed in a single day. The rats make nothing of devouring the whole carcase of of a horse (except the bones) if left exposed, during a single night.—*Hampshire Gaz.*

In travelling through Worcester county, Mass. we have been surprised to see such a number of *broad rimmed wheels.* At Boston we observed a number of new stages with similar wheels. On enquiry we learnt from the most respectable authority that such wheels were coming gradually into use, and were decidedly preferred by those engaged in transporting by land. Three teams were rising a muddy hill with equal loads and an equal number of horses. The forward teamster laid his whip on his arm and walked behind his wagon. The second applied his whip with full force—and the third had put his shoulder to the wheel. The foremost wagon had broad rimmed wheels—the two others narrow rims. One of the principal carriers in Norfolk county, Mass. has adopted such wheels, and after years of trial says, that he would prefer to pay for broad rimmed wheels, in preference to using the best narrow rimmed wheels if furnished free of expense. The broad rims have a decided advantage on sand, and soft ground. They are in general use in England. It is calculated that a general use of them will save one half the expense of repairing highways, which in Massachusetts is computed to be nearly $500,000 a year. The legislature of that State, convinced by ample experiments of many intelligent farmers, and carriers, have passed a law requiring that all carts, wagons and stages, built after two years, shall have broad rimmed wheels, the lightest not less than four inches, others five inches broad.—*Southern paper.*

Cotton seed whiskey.—The people of Georgia have discovered that whiskey can be obtained from cotton seed; another poisonous liquid is therefore to be added to those which are now ruining the country. This new whiskey has a villanous smell, but it makes the topers "squabble, swagger and swear," and will of course be swallowed.—*ibid.*

Legs.—A person confined to the bed a week by sickness, has generally to remark a much greater wasting of the legs than of the arms; the reason of this, is, the muscles of the leg in ordinary cases, being more in use than those of the arms, have their usual bulk so much owing to this, that they suffer a greater change from inaction than others, which have a certain magnitude independently of use.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BOSTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 1828.

CANKER WORMS.

We shall not attempt to give either a description or the natural history of the canker worm, but refer to Professor Peck's Memoir on the subject; [which was originally published in the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository—and republished in the New England Farmer, Vol. v. page 393], and direct our attention, exclusively, to the remedies, which have been used, or suggested to preserve fruit trees from this formidable enemy.

The female of this insect, comes out of the ground late in the fall, early in the spring, or sometimes, during a period of mild open weather, in winter. Those which rise in autumn or in winter are less numerous than those which ascend in spring; but being very prolific, they do much injury. One method of preventing the ravages of the worm is to bar the ascent of the females up the stem of the tree. This has generally been attempted by *tarring*, of which there are several modifications.

First, A strip of linen or canvass is put round the body of the tree, before the females begin their ascent, and well smeared with tar. The insects, in attempting to pass this barrier, stick fast and perish. But this process, to complete the desired effect, must be commenced about the first of November, and the tarring continued, [when the weather is mild enough to permit the worms to emerge from the ground,] till the latter end of May, or till the time of their ascent is past. It is necessary to fill the crevices in the bark with clay or mortar, before the strip of linen or canvass is put on, that the insects may not pass under it.—Having put on the strip, which should be at least three inches wide, draw it close, fasten the ends together strongly, then tie a thumb rope of tow round the tree, close to the lower edge of the strip. The design of this, is to prevent the tar from running down the bark of the tree, which would injure it. It should be renewed, in moderate weather, once a day, without fail. The best time is soon after sun-set, because the insects are wont to pass up in the evening, and the tar will not harden so much in the night as in the day.

Second, Another mode of tarring, is to take two wide pieces of board, plane them, make semi-circular notches in each, fitting them to the stem or body of the tree; and fasten them together at the ends, so that the most violent storms may not displace them. The crevices betwixt the boards and the tree may be easily stopped with rags or tow; then smear the underside of the boards with tar. The tar being defended from the direct rays of the sun, will hold its tenacity the longer—and therefore need not be frequently renewed. The trees, in this way, will be less liable to be injured by the drippings of tar, by leaving a margin of two or three inches, on those parts of the boards which are next to the trees, to which no tar is applied.

Third, Another mode of blockading the paths of the insects, in their ascent up the trees, is to inclose them with collars, or circular slips of tin. Of this method, we have seen some notices, but no description. We presume, however, that the pieces of tin are shaped and fitted to the trees, somewhat like the boards above mentioned; and, perhaps, if the outer rims of the collars were curved, or bent downwards, they might present obstacles, which the worms could not pass, even if no tar was applied. We fear that this method would prove too expensive for general adoption—but would solicit further information on this subject from those who have a practical knowledge of its application and results.

Fourth, Another method, proposed by Dr. Jeremiah Spofford, of Bradford, Mass. is to spread Mercural Ointment *(Unguentum Hydrarygri)* upon strips of woollen cloth, or narrow lists, such as are cut from the edges of broadcloth, and apply them closely round the trees, having first made the bark smooth, where it is not so, that none of the grubs, or females that deposit the eggs, from which the worms are produced, may pass under the band or strip, which contains the ointment. Dr. Spofford observes, "that the advantages of using the unguentum over any mode in common use are obvious. While tar requires to be renewed every night, that it may catch and hold the grub, merely by its tenacity, this mode requires preparing but once a year, and will be growing stronger for a long time, by an increased oxydation of the mercury, when exposed to the air."

The Massachusetts Agricultural Repos. Vol. iii No. 4, contains some remarks on the cankerworm, by the Hon. John Lowell, president of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, from which the following is extracted:—

"I had the turf dug in around sixty apple trees, and the earth laid smooth. I then took three hogsheads of *effete*, or air slacked lime, and strewed it an inch thick round my trees, to the extent of two or three feet from the roots, so that the whole diameter of the opening was four to six feet. I tarred these trees as well as the others, and although I had worms or grubs on most that were not limed, I did not catch a single grub where the trees were limed.

"I do not speak with confidence. I am, however, strongly encouraged to believe the remedy perfect. It was ascertained by Professor Peck, that the insect seldom descended into the ground at a greater distance than three or four feet from the trunk, and to the depth of four inches, or that the greater part come within that distance. The lime is known to be destructive of all animal substances; and I have little doubt that it actually decomposes and destroys the insect in the chrysalis state, at least I hope that this is the case.

"There are many reasons, which should encourage a repetition of this experiment. The digging round the trees is highly useful to them, while tarring is very injurious. The expense is not great—a man can dig round fifty trees in one day. The lime is a most salutary manure to the tree. After the spot has been once opened and limed the labor of keeping it open will not be great. Three hogsheads of air-slacked lime, or the sweepings of a lime store will suffice for fifty trees, and will cost three dollars. As it is done but once a year, I think it cannot be half so expensive as tarring.

"I repeat it, that I mention my experiments with great diffidence, as being the first of my own knowledge. It may induce several persons to try it in different places, and where trees are surrounded with others, which are treated differently. All I pray, is, that it may prove successful—and relieve us from this dreadful scourge, which defaces our country, while it impoverishes and disappoints the farmer."

The remedies proposed by Professor Peck, were 1st. Turning up the ground carefully in October, as far as the branches of a tree extend—to half a spade's depth, or five inches, so as completely to invert the surface. A great number of chrysolids would thus be exposed to the air and sun, and of course destroyed. 2d. Breaking the clods and smoothing the surface with a rake, and passing a heavy roller over it, so as to make it very hard and without cracks. In grass grounds the sods should be turned with the grass side down, and placed side by side so as to be rolled. The winter's frosts would heave and crack a smooth surface, but it might be smoothed and hardened by the roller, or by other means in March, with much less trouble, time, and expense than rolling requires. As lime, when slacked is reduced to an impalpable powder and is thus well adapted to close the opening in the surface, Mr. P. was inclined to think its good effects are produced this way as well as by its caustic qualities.

John Kenrick, Esq. of Newton, Mass. proposed, between the time in June after the worms had disappeared and the 20th of October to take the whole of the soil surrounding the trees, to the extent at least of four feet from the trunk, and to a suitable depth and cart it away to a distance from any trees, which the canker worms are in the habit of feeding on; and returning an equal quantity of compost or rich earth intermixed with manure.

A writer for the New England Farmer, Vol. iii. page 327, states a case of an orchard having been preserved from the canker worm, by means of a large number of locust trees, equal to about double the number of apple trees.

Mr. Roland Howard, of Easton, Mass. observes, that "a quantity of lime was collected from the sweepings of a lime store and spread on the ground around a certain apple tree, some time in the month of November, (the foliage of which had been destroyed by the canker worm the preceding summer) the ground being in a pulverized state, the lime was spread as far from the trunk of the tree as the drippings from the branches extended. The effect was stated to be the entire disappearance of the worm and an increased vigor of the tree." The same writer observes, that "moving the earth with a plough or hoe late in November, or beginning of December, has been found very efficacious in destroying them." This last mentioned remedy, if it always proves efficient, will probably be the cheapest and most expedient.—But the worm must be capable of enduring a considerable degree of cold, or unerring instinct would not lead it from its dormitory in November, (as it frequently does) to brave the rigors of winter on the stem or branches of the tree. We are inclined to believe, as well as to hope that the application of lime, as above stated, will prove effectual, and if so, it will propably be preferable to any mode of applying tar, or attacking the enemy above ground.

When the insects have ascended, their numbers may be lessened by jarring or shaking the body or limbs of the tree causing them to suspend themselves by the threads, which they spin from their bodies, and striking them off with a stick.—It is said that those which thus fall to the earth, do not rise again. Whether they would be able to resist the effects of a sprinkling with soap suds, saline, or bitter infusions, &c. is more than we can say; but we wish their powers might be test-

ed by showering them with those mixtures, which are found to be the best antidotes against other insects.

Gooseberry Bushes.—On planting these bushes, it is advisable to trim off all the old or dry wood; by this means, they grow more luxuriant, and it is very essential to the bearing of good gooseberries that they always be kept thinned of limbs. They bear much finer fruit, and will not mildew as they do when suffered to grow to a large bush.

POTATOS.

"The ground usually chosen for the culture of this root is a stubble field, after the ordinary course of white straw crops, or a piece of old clover lay, either of which are broken up between Christmas and Candlemas, and potatos of an early sort, called painted ladies, are put in about the middle of April; the red Irish apple sort about the middle of May, or beginning of June, and in the following manner:—Furrows are drawn at the distance of two and a half feet apart, straight across the field, in the direction the potatos are to be planted; in the bottom of these furrows the dung is usually spread; upon this dung the potato sets are placed regularly at the distance of about six inches. The mould raised from the furrow, which received the dung and setts, is then ploughed back again, and in this situation the field remains until the plants appear sufficiently to mark the interval, which is then horse hoed, and that operation is followed by the double-breasted plough, the mould-boards of which are set so wide, as to make the raised earth just meet upon the rows, and completely to cover the young potato plants; these, in a growing season, will very soon be seen above this second covering, when the mould boards of the double breasted plough are farther spread, and the last moulding is completed by throwing the earth from the intervals upon the ridges, and at the foot of the plants as high as it will lie; the rows are then examined, as well for the purpose of relieving any of the potato plants on which clods may have fallen, as for drawing and cutting out any weeds that may be among them; and this completes the dressing. One man and one horse on a well proportioned field of ten or twelve acres, and lying sufficiently level for the plough to work both ways, will horse-hoe three acres per day, and the same quantity in the subsequent operations of moulding of the plants."—*Vancouver's Survey of Devonshire.*

From a late English paper.

AGRICULTURE, TRADE, &c.

The average product of an acre of wheat in Van Dieman's Land is twenty bushels; and the expense of production, independent of quit-rent is 4l. 10s.

A shrub has been discovered in our new Indian territories, from whose stem, when divided, there issues a copious vegetable spring of limpid and wholesome water. The natives know this well, and hence we rarely meet with an entire plant. It is a powerful climber, and is quite new and nondescript.

At the late Edinburgh agricultural meeting, at which above three hundred noblemen and gentlemen attended, Sir John Sinclair addressed the party after breakfast, and informed them that a great part of the bread which they had been eating was composed chiefly of potato flour, and if the public would be contented with such bread, Britain never would require a bushel of foreign grain.

Accounts from the Cape of Good Hope mention a great improvement in the wines of that colony; some of the planters, who had looked more to quality than to quantity, have been induced to adopt the French and German system in their vineyards, and the result has exceeded the most sanguine expectations. It is a singular fact, that much white Cape has been imported into France, and after proper reduction by means of full-bodied wines of native growth, been sold to English connoisseurs as genuine East India Madeira.

Potato Oats, &c.

These Oats, (known in England by the name of Potato Oat) exceed any grain of the kind ever known as an article of food, or in any way of distillation. Those who wish for some of this incomparable Grain for seed, weighing *forty-two pounds per bushel*, and raised in New York, can be supplied by calling at the Seed Establishment, No. 52. North Market street, at $2 per bushel. The following description of this Grain is from Loudon. "The Potato Oat has large, plump, rather thick skinned grains, double and treble, with longer straw than either the Poland, or the Dutch Oat. It is almost the only oat now raised on land in a good state of cultivation in the north of England and the south of Scotland, and usually brings a higher price in the London market than any other variety. It was discovered growing in a field of potatos in Cumberland, in 1788, and from the produce of the single stalk which there sprung up by accident, (probably from the manure) has been produced the stock now in general cultivation."

Two casks Carolina Sweet Potato Slips.

Likewise, Early English Manly—English Kidney, and Chenango seedling Potatos. One barrel Early Royal George Potatos, an early sort and prodigious bearer—price $2 per bushel. This is a valuable kind for market gardeners.

6000 two year old seedling Hawthorn Quicks, for line fences in fine order, at a moderate price.

10 barrels Early Frame Peas, raised in Bangor, Me.

A further supply of the celebrated New Zealand Spinach, [*Tetragona expansis*].

1000 pounds fresh Lucerne, imported from Europe this spring.

10 barrels English White Mustard Seed.

Also, a consignment from Albany, of 50 barrels Marrowfat Peas, by the barrel, at a very low price.

Early Tuscarora Corn, for the table.

Also, Seeds for Diers' use—Ornamental Flower Seeds, &c. comprising the largest collection of Seeds to be found in New England.

Also, seeds of the Cuba Tobacco, Yellow Tobacco, Teazel, Lentils, Spring Wheat, Spring Rye, Barley, Rape, Broom Corn, Spring Vetches, Castor Oil Bean, Corn, (various sorts)—Weld, Yellow Locust, White Mulberry, Millet, Burnet, Orchard Grass, Rye Grass, Tall Meadow Oats Grass, White and Red Clover, Mangel Wurtzel, &c.

☞ A supply of the Roots of "WILMOT'S SUPERB STRAWBERRY"—measuring six and eight inches in circumference, is daily expected from Europe.

N. DAVENPORT offers for sale at his Nursery, in Milton, a fine collection of Fruit and Forest Trees, and Ornamental Shrubs, comprising Apples, Pears, Peaches, Prunes, Nectarines, &c. Gooseberry and Currant Bushes. A list of which can be seen at the office of the New England Farmer, or Agricultural Warehouse—and will be inserted in the New England Farmer occasionally. At this Nursery, however, it is not so much an object to present the imposing display of a great number of the names of indifferent fruit as to keep a choice collection of those sorts, whose excellence is well known and established.

☞ Orders are respectfully solicited, and will receive prompt attention if left with J. R. NEWELL, at the Agricultural Establishment, No 52 North Market street; or with FRENCH & DAVENPORT, No. 713 Washington Street—or at the Nursery in Milton. Feb. 29.

Gunpowder, &c.

Du Pont's Gun Powder, at 23 to 50 cts. per pound—Shot—Balls—Flints and Percussion Caps.

Also, Alum—Refined Salt Petre—Blue Vitriol, &c. constantly for sale at the *Dupont Powder Store*, No. 65 Broad street—By E. COPELAND, Jr

☞ The Du Pont sold as above, is warranted first quality—and is marked "*E. Copeland, jr. Boston,*" on the head of the cask. tf March 14

Just Published

And for sale at this office, "Observations on the Efficacy of White Mustard Seed, *(Sinapis alba)* taken whole. From the 10th London edition, revised and improved." Price 6 cts.

New Treatise on Flowers.

In press, and will be published the beginning of the ensuing week, at the office of the New England Farmer, and by G. Thorburn & Son, New York, "a Treatise on the Cultivation of Ornamental Flowers; comprising Remarks on the requisite Soil, Sowing, Transplanting, and general Management; with Directions for the general treatment of Bulbous Flower Roots, Green-house Plants, &c. By Roland Green." Price 37 cts.

For Sale or to Let

The three elegant Stud Horses "Dey of Algiers"—"Ranger," and "Young Highlander;" all sired by the celebrated Horse Highlander. Two full-blooded English Bulls—two Bulls and and several Heifers, three and seven-eighs blood Holderness, or Short Horned breed.

Also, two Farms in Tolland, and a convenient House in the central part of the City of Hartford. Inquire at the of the New England Farmer, or Ralph Watson, East Windsor, Connecticut. April 18.

JAMES BLOODGOOD & Co's.

Nursery, at Flushing, on Long Island, near New York.

IN behalf of the Proprietors of the above Nursery, the subscriber solicits the orders of Horticulturists who may be desirous of stocking their gardens and fields with Fruit Trees of the finest sorts, and most healthy and vigorous stocks the present reason.

BLOODGOOD & Co. *attend personally to the Inoculating and Engrafting of all their Fruit Trees*—and purchasers may rely with confidence, that the Trees they order will prove genuine. The subscriber, Agent of the above Nursery, will receive orders for any quantity of

FRUIT AND FOREST TREES,
FLOWERING SHRUBS,
AND
PLANTS.

The Trees will be delivered in this City, at the risk and expense of the purchaser—the bills may be paid to him.

The reputation of this Nursery is so extensively known, and has been so well sustained, that I take leave to refer those in want of Trees, to any of the Horticulturists in this City and its vicinity; and if ocular demonstration is desired, I invite those who wish to be thus satisfied, to examine the Trees in my garden at Dorchester, procured from this Nursery for three or four years past, some of which are now in bearing, all in a healthy and vigorous state.

☞ Catalogues will be delivered gratis, on application to ZEB. COOK, Jr. Rogers' Buildings—Congress St.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

		FROM	TO
APPLES, best,	barrel.	2 50	3 00
ASHES pot, first sort,	ton.	107 50	110 00
Pearl, first sort,	"	112 00	115 00
BEANS, white,	bushel.	1 00	1 50
BEEF, mess, new,	barrel.	9 75	10 50
Cargo, No. 1, new,	"	8 50	9 00
Cargo, No. 2, new,	"	7 50	8 00
BUTTER, inspected No. 1, new,	pound.	15	25
CHEESE, new milk,	"	7	10
Skimmed milk,	"	3	6
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard-street,	barrel.	5 25	5 37
Genesee,	"	5 12	5 37
Rye, best,	"	3 00	3 24
GRAIN, Corn,	bushel.	52	54
Rye,	"	60	62
Barley,	"	60	70
Oats,	"	30	32
HOG'S LARD, first sort, new,	pound.		10
LIME,	cask.	70	1 00
PLAISTER PARIS retails at	ton.	2 75	3 00
PORK, new, clear,	barrel.	18 00	19 00
Navy, mess, new,	"	13 50	13 50
Cargo, No. 1, new,	"	12 00	13 00
SEEDS, Herd's Grass,	bushel.	1 87	1 00
Orchard Grass,	"		5 00
Fowl Meadow,	"		4 00
Rye Grass,	"		4 00
Tall Meadow Oats Grass,	"		5 00
Red Top	"		1 00
Lucerne,	pound.		50
White Honeysuckle Clover,	"		50
Red Clover,	"	11	12
French Sugar Beet,	"		1 50
Mangel Wurtzel,	"		1 50
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed,	pound.	38	55
Merino, full blood, unwashed,	"	20	25
Merino, three fourths washed,	"	28	34
Merino, half & quarter washed	"	28	30
Native, washed,	"	22	27
Pulled, Lamb's, first sort,	"	40	45
Pulled, Lamb's, second sort,	"	30	35
Pulled, for spinning, first sort,	"	30	35

PROVISION MARKET.

BEEF, best pieces,	pound.	9	12
PORK, fresh, best pieces,	"		10
whole hogs,	"	6	7
VEAL,	"	6	9
MUTTON,	"	6	12
POULTRY,	"	8	17
BUTTER, keg and tub,	"	20	25
Lump, best,	"	25	28
EGGS,	dozen.	11	13
MEAL, Rye, retail,	bushel.		75
Indian, retail,	"		70
POTATOS,	"	37	40
CIDER, [according to quality,]	barrel.	2 00	2 50

MISCELLANIES.

WARM RECEPTION.

Rusticus wrote a letter to his love,
And filled it full of warm and keen desire;
He hop'd to raise a flame—and so he did—
The lady put his nonsense in the fire.

The President's guard.—An Englishman speaking of the presidency of Washington, was expressing to an American a wish to behold him. While this conversation passed, "there he goes," replied the American, pointing to a tall, erect, and dignified person, on the other side of the street "Is that General Washington!" exclaimed the Englishman, "where is his guard?"—"Here," replied the American, striking his bosom with emphasis.

Irish wit.—It happened, lately, in repairing the street in which Dr. Abernethy resides, that the paving stones were accumulated before his door. The doctor, rather angry, remonstrates with an Irish laborer, and the following dialogue took place:—

Dr. A.—Why the d—l have you laid your rubbish opposite my door where carriages are daily stopping?

Pat.—Farth, your honor, it must be laid somewhere, till the strate is mended.

Dr. A.—It may be so;—but it must not be laid there.

Pat.—Where can I put it at all, your honor?

Dr. A.—Put it in h—l, if you like.

Pat.—O-be-dad—I'd better put it in heaven; it would be more out of your honor's way.

A Profitable Tempest.—When Isaiah Thomas, (printer of the Farmer's Almanac) was called upon by a *printer's boy* to know what he should put against the 13th of July, replied "any thing;"—upon which the boy set "*rain, hail, and snow.*" The country people were amazed at this; but it so happened that it actually rained, hailed, and snowed on that day, which proved a profitable storm to the proprietor of the almanac for the future numbers.

Why is a gardener the most extraordinary man in the world?

Because, no man has more business upon *Earth*.

And he always chooses good *Grounds* for what he does:

He commands his *Thyme*, and is *Master* of the *Mint*.

He fingers *Penny Royal*, and raises his *Celery* every year.

And it is a bad year indeed that does not bring a *Plum*.

He meets with more *Boughs* than a Minister of State.

He makes more *Beds* than are in the French King's Palace.

And he has in them more *Painted Ladies* too.

He makes *Raking* his business, and not a *Diversion*, as many other Gentlemen do.

He finds it advantageous to his Health and Fortune, which few rakes can boast.

His wife has enough of *Lad's Love* and *Heart's Ease*, and never wishes for *Weeds*.

Distempers fatal to others, never hurt him;

He walks the better for the *Gravel*, and thrives most in a *Consumption*.

His greatest Pride, and the World's greatest wonder is, that he can have *Yew* when he pleases.

A Bull.—A lady wrote to her lover, begging him to send her some money. She added, by way of postscript, "I am so ashamed of the request I have made in this letter, that I sent after the post boy to get it back, but my servant could not overtake him."

Dr. Johnson said, that a man, by taking a second wife, pays the highest compliment to the first, by shewing that she made him so happy as a married man, that he wishes to be so a second time.

Persons employed in grinding needles are usually seriously injured, and become consumptive, by inhaling the steel dust thrown off in the operation. To prevent this, a magnet is now suspended over the wheel, which attracts particles and prevents all injurious effect. This is one of the many modern applications of science, to the purposes of humanity.

Mad Dogs.—About forty sheep have recently been bitten by a mad dog at Pennamaquan, which have been killed and burned by their owners; and in Dennysville, a number of animals, we understand, have also been bitten, within a few days, by a mad dog. In consequence of this, all the dogs that are seen in the streets, in Dennysville, are instantly killed.—*Eastport Sentinel.*

Improvement by plantation is at once the easiest' the cheapest, and the least precarious mode of increasing the immediate value, as well as the future income of estates; and it would be well for the lords of the soil to remember the exhortation of the dying Scotch laird to his son; "Be aye sticking in a tree, Jock; it will be growing whilst you are sleeping."

There are in the human body no less than 500 muscles, for the purpose of performing its various functions; but these are few compared to the number assigned to some minute animals; a particular species of caterpillar was ascertained by the naturalist Lyonet, to possess 4,000 muscles in the different parts of its minute body.

Cure for the dropsy.—The following article is from a most respectable source, and we strongly recommend it (says the Salem Gazette) to the attion of our readers:—

I am knowing to two extremely distressing cases of dropsy being suddenly relieved by means of the bark of common elder. One, a woman advanced in years, in the last stages of the disease; and the other a young woman who had been for eighteen months confined to her bed, (four last of which she was unable to lie down). Her strength was nearly exhausted;—but is now wholly free from the disease, and is recovering strength in a manner surprising. Other cases less aggravated have been cured by the same method. The receipt is, "take two handfuls of the green or inner bark of the white elder, steep it in two quarts of white Lisbon wine twenty-four hours—take a gill of the mixture in the morning, fasting, or more if it can be borne. If more convenient, part in the morning and part about noon, on an empty stomach." The white pith elder abounds in Essex county—we have here two kinds, the white and black pithed. The effect of the bark prepared as above, or the juice from the leaves, has been used with success when wine could not be procured; and it promotes all the animal secretions necessary to health, which is the cause of its salutary effect in dropsy. Great debility will always follow the use of powerful evacuants, and the best medical writers now recommend nutricious alimen as the best medicine in every case of debility. The bark and leaves of the elder have been long known as powerful evacuants, and not esteemed unsafe. Yet caution is recommended in using the buds, as their effect is esteemed and has been found dangerous in some cases.

Rose Bushes and Grape Vines.

For sale at the House of SAMUEL DOWNER, in Dorchester, 80 hundred leaf Rose bushes—90 do. Province, or Cabbage 10 do. four seasons—300 do. Damask—30 do. Burgundy—5 do. Austrian—25 do. Marble—10 do. Tuscany—100 do. French—6 very large pots monthly Roses, sixteen years old, and in prime health—7 varieties Double Dahlias—Single, do.—8 Lagerstoœmia Indica, or Crape Myrtle, two of which are 20 years old—200 Grape Vines, (White Sweet water)—Snow ball Bushes—White Lilies—Red and White Lilacs.

ROSE WATER.

20 Demijohns Double and Single distilled Rose Water, made entirely from Damask Roses. The above Rose Water is constantly kept for sale at Mr. C. Wade's Porter Cellar, No. 12 Merchant's Row, by Demijohn or less quantity.

6t March 14

Engrafting and Garden Work.

RUFUS HOWE, of Dorchester, informs his friends and the public, that he will attend to the Engrafting of Trees or Garden work. Having had considerable experience, he thinks he can give satisfaction to those who may favor him with employment. Reference can be had of Mr. Samuel Downer, of Dorchester.

3t April 4

40,000.

For sale, Forty Thousand engrafted APPLE TREES, from two to four years from the graft—consisting of forty-three kinds of the most approved and superior Fruits; including early autumn and winter Apples. Also, other Fruit and Ornamental Trees. Orders may be sent to this place via Post office, directed to FRANCIS WINSHIP.

Brighton, March 21st, 1828.

SUPERB BULBOUS ROOTS.

Just received at the New England Farmer Seed Establishment, a fine collection of superior Bulbous Roots, suitable for spring planting. Consisting of black, purple, orange, violet, crimson, rose, nankeen, bronze, and white colored DOUBLE MEXICAN DAHLIAS. Also, Ferraria Tigrida, or Mexican Tiger Flower—Amaryllis Formosissima, or Jacobean Lily—Double Tuberose, and Ranunculus; paintings of which may be seen at this place. The above collection of Bulbs is in fine order, and is from the same House from which we obtained the Bulbous Roots last autumn, which gave such uncommon satisfaction.

Landreth's Nurseries—Near Philadelphia.

From the patronage already extended this Establishment, by the citizens of Boston and its vicinity, the Proprietors are again induced to advertise to them their Nurseries, as offering peculiar facilities for the acquirements of useful & ornamental vegetable productions. The collection now cultivated by them, consists of an immense variety of Fruit and Hardy Ornamental Trees and Shrubs—Green-house Plants—Bulbous Roots, and Garden Seeds. The assortment of Fruits is not surpassed in real value by any in this country. It embraces most of the celebrated kinds of Europe, with all the esteemed varieties which have originated on this continent. The utmost care has been observed in making the selection, and the whole is now offered as containing none but those most worthy of cultivation. Persons not acquainted with the different varieties by name, and desirous to procure choice kinds, by merely stating the time they wish them to ripen, may confidently refer the rest to the proprietors, without a fear of disappointment.

The Ornamental department is rich in native and exotic Plants—it contains a splendid collection of Green house Plants, most of which are calculated for adorning in the winter seasons, parlours, sitting rooms, &c. with an assortment of Hardy Flowering Shrubs, and acquisitions are continually making.

In the portion of ground allotted to Garden Seeds are grown almost every variety of Esculent Vegetables for seeding. The method pursued by the Proprietors in this branch, certainly must obtain for them a preference withs all who will consider the subject in the slightest degree. The peparation of those kinds liable to mix in seeding—in short, the whole process of cultivation, in gathering, &c. all being under their own personal superintendence undoubtedly conspires in an eminent degree, to obviate the errors and impositions, unavoidable in a dependence on foreign importations, or on careless or inexperienced growers at home. Orders received by Parker & Codman, No. 31 Congress St. Boston, of whom priced catalogues of the whole may be had gratis. Persons ordering, may be assured of having every article well and safely packed and forwarded.

Feb. 15. tf D. & C. LANDRETH.

Published every Friday, at $3 per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within sixty days from the time of subscribing, are entitled to a deduction of fifty cents.